



Deval L. Patrick  
Governor

# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## *Department of Public Safety*

*One Ashburton Place, Room 1301*

*Boston, Massachusetts 02108-1618*

*Phone (617) 727-3200*

*Fax (617) 727-5732*

*TTY (617) 727-0019*

[www.mass.gov/dps](http://www.mass.gov/dps)

Andrea J. Cabral  
Secretary

Thomas G. Gatzunis, P.E.  
Commissioner

### **Minutes**

#### **MASSACHUSETTS STATE ATHLETIC COMMISSION 1 ASHBURTON PLACE, BOSTON, DPS CONFERENCE ROOM 1301 DECEMBER 4, 2014, 12:00PM**

1. The meeting was called to order by acting Chair Joseph Krowski, Jr. at 12:25pm followed by roll call:

##### Board Members Present

Commissioner Guy Licciardi  
Commissioner Gary Litchfield  
Acting Commissioner Joseph Krowski, Jr.

##### Board Members Absent

LaTeisha Adams Chair  
Commissioner Quion T Riley

##### Guests Present

Ronnie Drimer, DPS Program Coordinator  
Deirdre Hosler, DPS Deputy General Counsel  
Jen Cobis, Administrative Assistant II  
George Dahlquist, Chief Deputy  
Patrick Bradley, Consultant  
John Morrell, Boxing Referee  
Leo Gerstel, Boxing Referee  
Mark Vaz, Boxing Matchmaker  
Joe Leonard, Amateur MMA fighter

2. Approval of the Minutes from October 2, 2014  
A motion was made by Commissioner Licciardi to approve the minutes of October 2, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion was passed by unanimous decision.

3. Approval of Suspensions for October 30, 2014, November 1, 2014, November 26, 2014  
A motion was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr to approve all of the suspensions for October 30, 2014, November 1, 2014 and November 26, 2014, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Motion was passed by unanimous decision.
4. George Dahlquist – Fighter weigh-in & fight issues November 1, 2014, Nico Byrd  
MSAC Chief Deputy George Dahlquist reported that Mr. Byrd was over 3 hours late to the weigh-in on November 1, 2014 at Coops Bar & Grille in Quincy. When he arrived he refused to fill out the late to weigh-in form and he was loud, using profanity and started undressing in the restaurant part of the building.  
On November 1, 2014 Commissioner Licciardi reported that  
The restaurant owner, Mario, advised Guy at the fight the next night that he had to speak with Mr. Byrd about his loud behavior and actions in front of the patrons. He seemed to be unstable and very agitated.  
The next night at the fight in Plymouth Memorial Hall, Nico Byrd lost his match and was again very agitated and unruly.  
After the final round as the fighters were going to their corners, Mr. Byrd tripped his opponent from behind.  
When the results were announced he became very unruly, was yelling profanities. He was so bad the crowd started booing him. His coach said he was embarrassed and did not feel he was going to work with him again.  
On his way to the dressing room, it was reported, Mr. Byrd was extremely upset and yelling, I am going to kill that \*&^%\$.  
In the dressing room he was very agitated and unstable.  
He was sitting in a chair with his wraps still on still repeating, “I am going to kill that \*&^%\$.”  
He started pacing the room looking for his opponent and still chanting, “I’m going to kill that \*&^^%\$”.  
The deputy in that dressing room was afraid something was going to start, he had Guy summoned to the dressing room.  
Mr. Dahlquist asked the Commissioners how long he should wait at the weigh-ins for late fighters. The Commissioners said 2 hours should be the limit. A motion was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr to have the weigh-in period to be a 2 hour limit, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.  
Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to bring Mr. Byrd in for a disciplinary hearing, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.  
A motion was made by Commissioner Litchfield and seconded by Commissioner Krowski Jr to have Attorney Hosler be designated as the point person to arrange hearings.  
Approved by unanimous vote.
5. Guy Licciardi – October 30, 2014, Paul Gonsalves, Greg McCoy, Wayne Harnois  
(Fighters who do not fulfill their contracts)  
Commissioner Licciardi stated at the event on October 30, 2014 fighter Paul Gonsalves came ringside to him after the bout was over and complained about the results, he became very aggressive and loud and postured to strike the Commissioner. Commissioner Krowski Jr was also ringside and witnessed Mr. Gonsalves behavior. Patrick Bradley was working for the promoter that night and also witnessed the disrespectful behavior towards Commissioner Licciardi and was in the dressing room when Mr. Gonsalves was extremely

agitated and using profanities. Commissioner Licciardi told Mr. Gonzales that this was not the time or place for this type of behavior.

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to bring in the fighter for a disciplinary hearing, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

At the boxing event on October 30, 2014 fighter Greg McCoy shoved referee John Morrell after the bout was over Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to have him come in for a disciplinary hearing, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

Boxer Wayne Harnois did not call or show up for the weigh-in and fight on October 29<sup>th</sup> and October 30, 2014. Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to bring him in for a disciplinary hearing, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

6. Promotion Activity Karyn Wesch

After Ms. Wesch's promoter license was suspended the staff was notified that she continued to try to promote another show on January 10, 2015, in Agawam. MMA amateur fighter Joseph Leonard told the Commission that Ms. Wesch approached him to fight on her January card.

Ms. Wesch sent the staff a request to forward to all of the Commissioners requesting that her suspension be lifted 2 months earlier, in April rather than June.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr to deny her request, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Approved by unanimous vote.

7. MMA Judge License Application – Paul O'Brien

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to approve this application pending a recommendation from New York and shadowing, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Approved by unanimous vote.

Southeast Asian Kickboxing Promoter Application – Frederic Belleton

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to approve this application, seconded by Commissioner Licciardi. Approved by unanimous vote.

MMA Promoter Application – Jeff Aronson

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to approve this application, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

MMA Matchmaker Application – Joe Wooster

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to approve this application, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

Event Application – Jeff Aronson December 19, 2014

Commissioner Krowski Jr made a motion to approve this application, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote.

8. Guy Licciardi - Cut Solutions

Commissioner Licciardi stated that he confiscated solutions and needles at one of the events and recommended having a mandatory training for deputies on what to look for in the dressing room and in the corners at the ring. A meeting will be scheduled on a February evening by staff.

9. Joseph Krowski, Jr. - Drug Testing

Commissioner Krowski recommended that we start doing drug testing at least once a month if that would be affordable. Commissioner Licciardi stated that we do have a contract with Occupational Drug Testing.

10. Mark Vaz – Golden Boy Event Decision, Gifford vs Ballard  
(Leo Gerstel and Jack Morrell)

Boxing matchmaker Mark Vaz spoke about the results of the event on October 30, 2014, bout between Gifford vs Ballard. Mr. Gifford hurt his ankle and went down in the first round; this was not a result of a strike by Mr. Ballard. The Association of Boxing Commission Referee Rules and Guidelines #33-34 states that this would be a no contest. According to MSAC rules it appears that this could be a TKO.

A motion was made by Commissioner Krowski Jr to take under advisement as the Commissioner is not ready to render a decision, seconded by Commissioner Litchfield. Approved by unanimous vote. Commissioner Litchfield recommended Commissioner Licciardi contact Tim Luckenhoff to discuss the rules.

11. Matters not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

Fighter Joseph Leonard handed in an application for Jeremy Reipold for the Boxers Fund Board.

12. Schedule next meeting

The next meeting is schedule for January 5, 2015 at 2:00pm.

13. Adjourn

This meeting adjourned at 1:49pm.

List of Documents/Exhibits used at this meeting

ABC Referee Rules & Guidelines #33-34

Unified Boxing Rules

Suspension Lists for October 30, 2014, November 1, 2014 & November 26, 2014

MMA Judge License Application – Paul O'Brien

Southeast Asian Kickboxing Promoter Application – Frederic Belleton

MMA Promoter Application – Jeff Aronson

MMA Matchmaker Application – Joe Wooster

Event Application – Jeff Aronson December 19, 2014